



VISION IAS

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ESSAY

Name of Candidate	Shlok Waikar			Test Code	2575		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	Eng	Registration Number	883913				
Centre	Online	Date	22-08-24				

INDEX TABLE

Section	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
A	125	
B	125	
Total Marks Obtained:		

Important Instructions

- The ESSAY must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.
प्रवेश-पत्र में प्राधिकृत माध्यम में निबन्ध लिखना आवश्यक है तथा इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुखपृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर करना आवश्यक है। प्राधिकृत माध्यम के अलावा अन्य माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तरों पर अंक नहीं दिए जाएंगे।
- Word limit, as specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर निर्दिष्ट शब्द-संख्या के अनुसार होने चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए किसी पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

Remarks:

General Instructions

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक इत्यादि)।
- Write **two** essay, choosing **one** topic from each of the Sections A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each.
खण्ड A व B प्रत्येक से एक विषय चुनकर दो निबन्ध लिखिए, जो प्रत्येक लगभग 1000-2000 शब्दों का हो।
- Do not write answers in bad of illegible handwriting. Such answer may not be evaluated.
उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गन्दी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तरों का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।
- Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answer. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
उत्तर स्याही से ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें। हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।
- Do not write answers in a medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language, i.e., authorized and unauthorized media together, for writing answers.
प्रवेश-पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली-जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।
- Write answers at the specified spaces (right below the questions) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified spaces in the Booklet shall not be evaluated.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended

Strongly Recommended

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp. Punjab & Sind Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Structure and Flow
3. Dimensional Coverage
4. Language Competence
5. Length of Essays
6. Creativity Competence

9.

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

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Evaluation Parameters

- Understanding of Topic
- Introduction Competence
- Body of Essay
 - Dimensions Covered
 - Shortcomings
 - Value Additions/ Missed Dimensions
- Conclusion Competence
- Organization of Essay
- Language and Expression

Macro Comments – Essay 1

Essay Topic:

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Macro Comments – Essay 2

Essay Topic:

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Section - A.

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(1)

What makes the desert beautiful is that somewhere it hides a well.

During the peak of the horrors of Jewish genocide in Nazi Germany, a concentration camp inmate Victor Frankl was fighting his battle of survival. Years later, he wrote a book "man's search for meaning".

He wrote, "one who has a why can endure anyhow".

He reflects on his own journey in the concentration camps, where his hope to meet his loving wife, his hope to revive his psychological research and his deep appreciation for life acted

like a hidden well in the desert.

of brutal Nazi occupation.

Victor Frankl's inspiring story of survival vividly captures the idea conveyed by the statement "What makes the desert beautiful is that somewhere it hides ~~the~~ a well."

This essay explores the nature of life altering challenges and upsets that appear like an unforgiving desert and the hidden opportunities that appear like a source of water. Further it examines how this well sometimes ^{remains} elusive and how we can turn the well into oasis.

How the beauty of desert reveals itself

Our life is seldom a straight path. We are faced with

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spectre of challenges, personal loses and life changing events that appear like unsurmountable forces of time.

Nations, once relishing in prosperity and wealth may collapse. The world may witness a once in a century natural calamity that no one predicted. Such uncertain times appear like deadly stretch of desert where not even a drop of water is found.

However, sometimes there are innate opportunities, lessons and catalysts present in the desert like a hidden well full of water. It not only reveals the beauty of the challenge but also makes the challenge blessing in disguise.

Challenges and calamities reveal our true characters. Martin Luther King Junior said that true test of character happens not in the times of comfort but in times of challenge and controversy.

South Africa was a land of apartheid with no hope of racial equality. Despite this hopelessness and 27 years of prison, Nelson Mandela led the country to a long walk of freedom. This struggle revealed that through the will of hope, courage and resilience the beauty of racial equality and justice can be revealed.

The hidden well sometimes appears as individual virtue of

leadership. It can catalyse historical changes in society and politics. Abraham Lincoln led America through a civil war and not only emerged victorious but also abolished slavery.

Sometimes, the despair and hopelessness caused by the crisis can be converted into an opportunity if we have the ability to find the hidden well. In early 1990s India faced balance of payment crisis. India used it as an opportunity to transform the economic landscape through the LPG reforms.

The economic desperation forced India to dispel the fears of globalisation, thus the economic

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U.P.S.C.

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crisis today appears like a beautiful dream which led to eventual reforms.

Crisis and Calamity also provide us with important lessons and help us prevent future crises. The conditions that led to those crises ~~teach~~ remind us about ethical human values.

World war II not only led to widespread loss of life and property but also violations of human dignity. The global community learnt important lessons and adopted Universal declaration on human rights. Today we are extremely vigilant towards any potential acts of tyranny. Global opinion firmly opposes acts of HR violations, learning from

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the horrors of fascism. In a way the war has inherent beauty because it allowed us to find the well of human values and ethics.

However, sometimes despite our best efforts the well is elusive. Meaning we are bogged down by the enormity of challenge.

Sometimes, we tend to give up too early, sometimes we are too afraid to face the consequences of our struggle and at times our means are unethical. The inability of USSR

to sustain itself is a case in point. It failed to remain patient amid Ronald Reagan's policy of economic strangulation. Further, it was too late to

Initiate economic and political reforms. USSR also failed to acknowledge the atrocities committed by the Stalin regime. All this aggregated leading to widespread unpopularity of the regime and its eventual collapse.

Turning the well into Oasis:

Without challenges and occasional crises, the human spirit remains forever subdued. True human achievement is a product of overcoming setbacks through patience, perseverance, resolve and Courage.

The story of three hundred Spartan warriors who withstood the entire Persian army teaches us the value of

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resilience amidst ~~the~~ daunting challenges.

Similarly, the ability to recover from a setback is a sign of resolve and courage.

It is said that success is not about never falling, it is about the ability to get up everytime we fall. It was exemplified by ISRO's mission Chandrayaan-3. Despite a crushing failure, ISRO demonstrated resolve and courage and made history by landing near moon's south pole.

ISRO showed that the desert of challenges can be turned into a beautiful oasis by finding the well of patience, perseverance, and resolve.

In the face of challenges the unity and togetherness of people is essential. Indian national movement is a story of people from different socio-cultural backgrounds coming together on a common platform, against a common enemy, with a common purpose. It led to success, against when the odds were stacked against the people with a spirit of brotherhood and unity. It was like a hidden well that turned the country from the desert of Colonial prosecution into an oasis of peace, prosperity and Justice.

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We have seen how challenges and calamities are an inherent part of life and how sometimes these challenges appear beautiful, if we find the hidden opportunities.

It can become blessing in disguise and led to social economic and political changes. However, sometimes impatience, lack of courage and unethical practices can jeopardise these opportunities.

But, amid the vastness of desert, the water from the well of opportunities can sprout the seeds of change and create an oasis of success. This requires virtues like patience, perseverance, commitment, resolve

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and courage. As Winston Churchill
at the height of world war II said
"~~Fail~~ Success is not final, Failure
is not fatal, it is the courage
to continue that counts."

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[Section - B]

- (8) The art of Progress is to preserve order amid change and to preserve change amid order

Human history is a product of the struggle between two opposing forces. On one hand, the force of order, based on certainty and wisdom of ages, pushes mankind towards status quoism and conservatism.

On the other hand, the force of change, based on reform and innovation, pushes humanity towards revolution. Both the forces envisage a different path towards progress, based on anti-thetical visions, methodologies and philosophies.

Despite the assumptions of antithetical relationship between order and change, history has shown that human progress is an inevitable product of a balance between the two.

This essay explores the complex relationship between order and change. It examines how human progress can be achieved through a balance between order and change.

Progress : science or Art ?

Conventionally, progress has been understood in terms of science. Social, economic, technological and cultural progress has been analysed through scientific methods. Economists,

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Political scientists and natural scientists have proposed to measure human progress in terms of economic growth, political participation and technological penetration.

However, ~~good~~ progress is often an abstract and intangible concept. It can mean different things to different people due to different background, values and aspirations.

For instance, in 20th century America, capitalists ~~show~~ saw progress in economic growth. However, African-American community viewed their exclusion from white collar jobs as a sign of social and economic degradation.

Given this subjectivity
it is better to understand
progress as an art rather
than science. The art of progress
is a product of complex inter-
play of order and change.

Order amid change -

"Change is the only
constant" is a popular adage.
It points towards the inevitability
of change in both natural
and human world. Human species
has evolved due to constant
adaptations by changing our
way of life. Similarly, we witness
widespread political, technological,
cultural and global changes.
Despite this inevitability

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order prevents this change
from disrupting human harmony.

In the political realm; democratic system is based on change in rulership based on elections and orderly transfer of power. Legal Constitutional order ensures that the political change works in the interest of people at large.

For instance, the political stability and continuity in India and instability in countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh shows how change without order can lead to chaos and anarchy.

Similarly, the global order is in constant state of flux. Economic centre of gravity

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has shifted from transatlantic to Asia Pacific. Revisionist China is changing the rules of international politics.

Thus, to preserve peace and prosperity, the world does need an order. It ought to be based on multipolarity and strong multilateralism. Global flux needs to be regulated through new global orders.

Further, moving to the technological growth due to rapid expansion of new technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning, without adequate regulatory frameworks, the perils of technology will outweigh outweigh its benefits. The rapid growth of technology can harm digital privacy, competition and human dignity.

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Google CEO Sundar Pichai has urged to put breaks on rapid growth of generative AI before regulations are put in place.

Just as order is needed amid rapid changes, the art of progress is incomplete without a change amid established orders.

Change amid Order —

It is true that order provides certainty, stability and preserves tradition. However, at times order can lead to fossilification of society.

There are many traditional practices that inhibit the progress of women. Personal laws based on age old religious

practices can stifle growth of gender parity. Hence, in India Uniform civil code is a beacon of change to challenge the established order in interest of gender justice.

Similarly, public admin-istration and bureaucracy appear anachronistic. They represent concentration of authority and risk aversion in the name of order. For good governance, world bank suggest adoption of people centric reforms by adopting values like innovations, team spirit and technology adoption.

As the aspirations of the society change, old economic policies hinder progress. It was

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aptly demonstrated in the economic and political crisis in Venezuela, where exclusivists state led economic policies perpetuated widespread poverty and hunger.

Thus, it is well established that order and change go hand in hand. There is no zero sum game between order and change. What is the optimum path towards progress?

Orderly change as a path to progress

It is amply clear that change and order are intertwined. orderly change is perhaps the most appropriate way to reconcile the two.

Rather than radical change or stubbornly statism, incremental change is the way forward. For instance in international climate governance the west calls for absolute abolition of all fossil fuels. On the other hand, the developing world is reluctant to change.

For progress on the climate front, the principle of just transition offers a middle path. It tries to reconcile need for climate action and developmental aspirations.

Progress also depends on our ability to respond to changes in an orderly manner. For example, to secure India's borders from aggression,

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Knee jerk military response
can be counter-productive.
There is a need for orderly
response based on diplomatic, legal
and military manoeuvres.

However, a balance is
not always the best solution. In
times of extraordinary crises
like widespread prosecution and
injustice - a peaceful revolution
remains the only path towards
progress. Grandhiji's satyagraha
movement is a case in point.

We have examined the
auto-interpretation of progress
in terms of arts rather than
science. We have seen how
order is necessary even as the
change is only constant. Further
we have seen the need of

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(Question No.)

U.P.S.C.

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Change amid orders. Reconciliation between the two is an optimum path towards progress.

The future of humanity will depend on our ability to handle the forces of change and order, keeping in centre the holistic progress of all societies, cultures and nationalities.